When the news finally came validating all

the great abstractions
I concluded that WE!
had won the battle

for democracy and free-
dom, the inevitable triumph

of justice over tyranny, blood
of recent martyrs
frothing us to a just peace!

But a soft misgiving
perseverated I needn't voice here, which

I confided, though, to the truest
political artist of our time, and he responded
in that joyous poetry so seeming-

ly effortless: Yo' balls on the
block already, boy!